



Summary of state, regional and local green-jobs initiatives and of pending and enacted green-jobs legislation

Appendix C

National Conference of State Legislatures
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and of pending and enacted green-jobs legislation¹

California

CA S.B. 1672

Status: Do Pass Recommendation from Senate Appropriations Committee – 05/22/2008.
Enacts the Renewable Energy, Climate Change, Career Technical Education, and Clean Technology Job Creation Bond Act of 2010 to authorize the issuance and sale of state general obligation bonds to fund 1) the construction of new facilities or the reconfiguration of existing facilities to provide pupils with the skills and knowledge necessary for careers directly related to clean technology, renewable energy, or energy efficiency, and 2) for loans to be awarded for capital outlay projects undertaken to provide job training and development in this area. Creates the Renewable Energy, Climate Change, Career Technical Education, and Clean Technology Job Creation Council who would oversee the implementation of this act.

CA A.B. 2147

Status: In Assembly Appropriations Committee – 05/22/2008.
Provides financial assistance to energy efficiency and renewable energy worker training programs for individuals, including at-risk youth and formerly incarcerated individuals. Establishes the Green Jobs Corps Grant Program, to be administered by the Labor and Workforce Development Agency in order to award grants to community-based organizations, local agencies, and service providers, or their partners, to establish and operate energy efficiency and renewable energy worker training programs.

CA A.B. 2224

Status: Hearing in Environmental Quality Committee scheduled for 06/16/2008.
Requires the Labor and Workforce Development Agency to establish standardized clean energy curriculum and provide outreach, assistance, and guidance to schools on creating clean energy training programs. Establishes the California Clean Energy Curriculum and Training Initiative subaccount within the Labor and Workforce Development Fund. Requires the Public Utilities Commission to collaborate with all industry stakeholders to disseminate information on successful innovations for labor market services and worker training with respect to clean energy technologies and to facilitate the connection of clean industry stakeholders with training programs recognized by the Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

Colorado

CO H.B. 1025

Status: Signed by Governor - 03/18/2008.
Creates the Governor's Energy Office and tasks the office to develop renewable energy curricula in collaboration with the Department of Higher Education to serve the work force needs of the renewable energy industry. Specifies that such collaboration may include research institution, state colleges, community colleges, and trade organizations. Provides that these institutions may partner with organizations that currently have curricula and training programs on renewable energy in developing new curricula.

¹ Updated July 2008 / Accessed September 2008

Connecticut

CT S.B. 23

Status: Tabled for Senate Calendar – 04/23/2008.

Establishes a "green collar jobs program" to be offered through the state-wide system of regional vocational-technical schools. Specifies that such program may include, but not be limited to, training for energy efficient building, construction and building retrofit trades and industries; residential, commercial or industrial energy efficiency assessment; renewable energy technologies; and sustainable climate change and environmental compliance strategies. Limits funding for the program to one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars for FY 2008.

CT H.B. 5724

Status: Public Act 08-168 transmitted to Secretary of State – 05/29/2008.

Requires the Renewable Energy Investments Board to convene a working group, in consultation with the Department of Public Utility Control, to develop a plan to maximize the use of solar power and create a self-sustaining solar industry in Connecticut. Specifies that the plan include recommendations regarding workforce development and job training necessary to build an in-state solar workforce and regarding coordination with other programs where appropriate.

Florida

FL H.B. 7135

Status: Ordered enrolled in the House – 04/30/2008.

Mandates the consortium of state universities focused on research and development of innovative energy systems leading to alternative energy strategies, improved energy efficiencies, and expanded economic development to develop education and outreach programs to prepare a qualified energy workforce. Directs the faculty associated with the consortium to coordinate a statewide workforce development initiative focusing on college-level degrees, technician training, and public and commercial sectors awareness of alternative energy. Further directs the development of specific programs targeted at graduates with a background in energy, continuing education courses for technical and nontechnical professionals, and modules, laboratories, and courses for the universities to share. Requires the consortium to work with the Florida Community College System to coordinate and design industry-specific training programs for technicians.

Kentucky

KY H.B. 2

Status: Signed by Governor, Acts Ch. 139 - 04/24/2008.

Requires that all construction or renovation of public buildings where the Commonwealth pays 50 percent or more of the total capital cost be designed and constructed or renovated to meet the high-performance building standards. Also requires that all buildings leased by the Commonwealth or any of its agencies meet the high-performance building standards. Mandates that the Department for Workforce Investment establish an energy technology career track program.

Maryland

MD H.B. 368 / MD S.B. 268

Status: Approved by Governor, Chapter 128 - 04/24/2008.

Establishes the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Program in the Maryland Energy Administration. Provides for grants to training funds and other organizations supporting job training for deployment of energy efficiency and energy conservation technology and equipment.

Massachusetts

MA S.B. 2262

Status: Order authorizing an investigation of bill's revenue and tax impact – 05/01/2008.

Creates a tax incentive for renewable energy technology job creation by providing a tax credit for direct manufacturing or professional services performed by an employee of renewable energy technology company during a calendar year that consists of research, development, production or provision for renewable energy.

MA S.B. 2540

Status: Referred to Committee on House Ways & Means – 03/10/2008.

Subject to appropriation, directs the secretary of labor and workforce development, in consultation with the secretary of energy and environmental affairs, to establish and administer programs and incentives to foster manufacturing and development in the renewable energy and energy efficient sectors. At a minimum, the secretary of labor and workforce development is required to develop workforce development and training programs to increase the number of trained skilled workers in the economic sectors of emerging clean energy, renewable energy, energy efficiency and demand resources, with a focus on training for low-income and disadvantaged adults. Directs the program to identify and maintain well-trained skilled workers and address emerging skills gaps in the clean energy industry. Provides that the program include, but not be limited to, grants to state universities, state colleges, community colleges, vocational and technical schools and organized labor for educational and certification programs.

Michigan

MI S.B. 1380

Status: Approved by Governor, Public Act No. 175 - 07/08/2008.

Allows the Strategic Fund to create and operate an energy excellence program to promote energy sectors in this state. Provides funding to support the activities of the center, including, but not limited to, workforce development and technology demonstration.

Minnesota

MN S.F. 3096 / MN H.F. 3669

Status: Approved by Governor, Chapter No. 356 - 05/23/2008.

Creates the Green Economy Transformation Task Force to advise and assist the governor and legislature regarding activities to transform the state's economy, and to develop a statewide action plan. Specifies that the task force is to be made-up of legislators, state agency representatives, and members representing the utility industry, financial institutions, environmental organizations, and a local economic development authority. Requires the task

force to analyze labor force needs relative to the green economy, including educational, training, and retraining needs.

MN S.F. 3540

Status: Committee recommendations to pass as amended - 03/31/2008.

Creates the Green Economy Transformation Task Force to advise and assist the governor and legislature regarding activities to transform the state's economy, and to develop a statewide action plan. Specifies that the task force is to be made-up of legislators, state agency representatives, and members representing the utility industry, financial institutions, environmental organizations, and a local economic development authority. Requires the task force to analyze labor force needs relative to the green economy, including educational, training, and retraining needs.

North Carolina

NC H.B. 1473

Status: Signed by the Governor – 07/31/2007.

Establishes the NC Green Business Fund for grants to private businesses with less than 100 employees, nonprofit organization, local governments, and State agencies to help grow a green economy in the state. Specifies that funds are to be made available for workforce development in the priority areas of the biofuels industry, the green buildings industry, and environmentally conscious clean technology and renewable energy products and businesses.

NC H.B. 2718

Status: Referred to House Committee on Appropriations – 05/28/2008.

Establishes the NC Green Business Fund to attract and leverage private-sector investments and entrepreneurial growth in environmentally conscious clean technology and renewable energy products and businesses. Includes the provision of no-interest loans to enhance workforce development in these businesses.

Ohio

OH S.B. 221

Status: Approved by Governor - 05/01/2008.

Provides funding for Edison technology centers* to create an advanced energy manufacturing center to foster the exchange of information and expertise regarding advanced energy, assist with the design of advanced energy projects, develop workforce training programs for advanced energy projects, and encourage investment in advanced energy manufacturing technologies for advanced energy products and investment in sustainable manufacturing operations. Allows any Ohio university conducting research on advanced energy resource or any non-profit corporation created to address issues regarding the price and availability of electricity to apply for and receive assistance. Provides that an independent group whose express objective is to educate small businesses about renewable energy resources and energy efficiency programs, or any small business electing to utilize an advanced energy project or participate in an energy efficiency program are eligible for assistance.

*The Edison Center Program is a public-private partnership to facilitate innovation and commercialization services to both established and emerging technology-based businesses. The Ohio Department of Development has provided funding assistance to the centers to enhance

economic growth. The state-designated Edison Centers also receive financial support from the industries which they serve.

Pennsylvania

PA S.B. 14

Status: Referred to the Senate Committee on Energy Policies – 11/30/2007.

Establishes a Green Work Force Training Program to promote job training related to the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries. Requires the Department of Labor and Industry to consult with the Department of Environmental Protection, representatives from eligible industries and labor organizations, to ensure that the training programs will teach relevant skills and competencies and that any certificates and credentials resulting from completed job training are recognized by employers.

Rhode Island

RI S.B. 2629 / RI H.B. 7884

Status: Senate Environment and Agriculture Committee recommended holding for further study – 04/09/2008. / House Environment and Natural Resources Committee recommended holding for further study – 04/01/2008.

Creates an economic and technology advancement advisory committee to recommend programs and incentives to foster energy efficiency and renewable energy workforce development and training programs, to increase the number of trained skilled workers in the economic sectors of emerging clean energy, renewable energy, energy efficiency, and demand resources. Requires that the programs and incentive be designed to promote growth of the clean energy economy by helping build a pipeline of well-trained skilled workers and addressing emerging skills gaps in both clean energy development and adoption.

Vermont

VT H.B. 520

Status: Vetoed by Governor - 06/06/2007.

Tasks the commissioner of labor to develop a green building, energy efficiency, and renewable energy workforce development plan that includes the following:

- (1) Comprehensive recommendations for recruiting and training individuals for employment in the green building and renewable energy and energy efficiency fields. The recommendations is to include goals for secondary and postsecondary schools, other educational institutions, workforce development organizations, and apprenticeship programs.
- (2) Recommendations for expanding certification programs for green builders and designers and installers of energy efficiency and renewable energy devices and systems.
- (3) Recommendations for incorporating energy efficiency and renewable energy training into apprenticeship and other training programs for electricians, plumbers, and other skilled trades persons.
- (4) Curricula for business development training and technical assistance for businesses that include green builders, energy efficiency designers and developers, and manufacturers of renewable energy and energy efficiency products.
- (5) Enhanced training programs for green builders and designers and weatherization professionals, including how to utilize state-of-the-art tools and materials.

VT H.B. 885

Status: Signed by Governor - 06/02/2008.

Formulates a strategy for environmental technology sector workforce development and training with the goal of developing programs that promote and market the sector and create a competitive workforce equipped with the needed skills and competencies. Directs the commissioner of labor and the secretary of commerce to analyze the geographic distribution of existing businesses and anticipated opportunities for business recruitment using the inventory of green business developed by the agency of commerce and the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Defines “environmental technology sector” as businesses and organizations in or related to waste management; natural resource protection and management; energy efficiency or conservation; clean energy, including solar, wind, wave, hydro, geothermal, hydrogen, fuel cells, waste-to-energy, or biomass; and any other environmental technology certified by the secretary of commerce and community development.

Virginia

VA S.B. 446

Status: Defeated in Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor – 02/11/2008.

Directs the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to develop a Green Jobs program that will train workers for jobs in new industries related to alternative energies, including the manufacture and operation of products used to generate electricity.

Washington

WA H.B. 2815 / WA S.B. 6516

Status: To House Committee on Appropriations – 01/31/2008. / To Senate Committee on Ways and Means – 01/21/2008.

Establishes the clean energy jobs growth initiative with the goal of increasing the number of clean energy sector jobs in the state. Requires an analysis of the current labor market and projected job growth in clean energy sectors, the wage and benefits ranges of these jobs, and the education and training requirements of entry-level and incumbent workers within those sectors. Directs the designation of certain industries as high-demand green industries, and the designation of high-wage occupations within those industries. Specifies that these designations inform the planning and strategic direction of the selected industry skill panels and the selection of recipients of green collar job training account grants. Provides that the green energy industry skill panels consist of business representatives from industry sectors related to clean energy, labor unions representing workers in those industries or labor affiliates administering state-approved, joint apprenticeship programs or labor-management partnership programs that train workers for these industries, employer associations, educational institutions, and local workforce investment boards, and other key stakeholders.

WA S.B. 6605

Status: To House Committee on Appropriations – 01/31/2008.

Creates the Washington energy efficiency worker training program within the department of community, trade, and economic development. Requires the provision of occupational skills training in the energy-efficient building, construction, and retrofit industries to help individuals, including at-risk youth, prepare for jobs in these industries. Defines occupational skills training as curriculum development, on-the-job training, classroom training, and safety and health training. Provides for internship programs in fields related to energy efficiency and renewable energy.